

# Marine Aircraft Group 26

## Safety Bulletin

12 February 2004

No. 24



### Photo of the Week... It's *Not* the Thought That Counts



Y'know, I'm always thinking about nice things I can do for my wife. Really. But, as she would say, "You don't send me flowers anymore." OK, OK, so sometimes I don't back the thoughts up with actions ... my bad. Guess we're all like that sometimes. Take this guy for instance. He is making a generous show of support for keeping the workplace safe, by providing a constant reminder for his coworkers.

Undoubtedly he is keeping safety on his mind as he climbs the railing of the scaffold and leans over to tie the sign around some pipes. Uh, wait a minute. Maybe not. So I guess we can officially label his actions "oxymoronic."

Folks, the point I'm trying to make is that you can think about safety all day, but if your actions don't back up your thoughts, you're just as likely to be in an accident as a person who never has safety on his mind.

### Quotable Quotes

Nothing astonishes men so much as common sense and plain dealing.

**Ralph Waldo Emerson**

We don't receive wisdom; we must discover it for ourselves after a journey that no one can take us or spare us.

**Marcel Proust**

## WEEKLY SAFETY FLAGALL

2-8 Feb 2004

### On Duty Ground:

**040203** Cpl, LCpl. MWSS-372, MWSG-37, 3d MAW. IVO the intersection of Interstate 805 and Interstate 8, San Diego, CA. SNMs were towing a 260 CFM Pneumatic Tool behind a 7-ton MTRV truck along Interstate 805 South when the rear left tire of the pneumatic tool departed. The tire flew across Interstate 805 and fell from the overpass onto Interstate 8 where it impacted the rear passenger door of a Honda Accord. The Honda's door and part of the roof were damaged, but no military or civilian personnel were injured during the accident.

**040203** SSgt. HQBN, Camp Fuji, Japan. SNM was planning a piece of wood in the wood shop when he accidentally severed the distal end of his left index finger. SNM was treated in Yokosuka's Naval Hospital. The SSgt's injury resulted in a permanent partial disability. An investigation is pending.

### Aviation:

**040209** Two Cpts. VT-22, NAS Kingsville, TX. The two-man crew (flight instructor and student pilot) of a T-45 trainer, were on a cross country training flight. The flight was planned from New Orleans, LA to Waco, TX. Nearing the end of the flight, the aircraft experienced a flame out due to running out of fuel. The crew successfully performed a gear up landing in a farmer's field 5 miles north of Waco, TX. The crew was not injured and the plane is intact. Damage to the aircraft as well as to personal property are unknown at this time.

### Off Duty:

**040201** SSgt. 9<sup>th</sup> Comm Bn. Temecula, CA. While on liberty, SNM received severe head injuries as a result of a single vehicle accident on I-215. SNM lost control of his POV causing himself and a passenger to be ejected from the vehicle. Initial reports indicate that alcohol may have been a factor. SNM is being treated at the Riverside County Hospital.

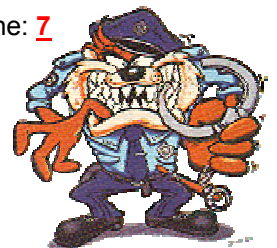
**040205** Two LCpls. 2d CEB, 2D MarDiv. Vanceburg, KY. SNMs were injured in a POV accident. SNM's were sideswiped by a truck while sitting at an intersection. Both Marines were admitted to Southern Ohio Medical Center. One LCpl (driver) suffered a left rib injury and a punctured lung. The driver remains hospitalized. The other LCpl (passenger) suffered hip and thigh bruises. The passenger was treated and released.

### Suicides:

None

### What's PMO been up to...

- Speeding **1-10 mph over** posted speed limit: **4**
- Speeding **11-15 mph over** posted speed limit: **8**
- Speeding in a school/ housing zone: **7**
- Failure to wear seatbelt: **2**
- Reckless Driving: **2**
- Driving under suspension: **1**



## Speaking of Stupid Things to do...



Over the years, we have published many examples of work on roofs without perimeter protection, misused elevating work platforms and misused forklift trucks. But when you get all three happening in the one photograph, you know you've hit the jackpot.

It hardly seems possible that anyone could come up with a more dangerous or more ridiculous way of doing roof work than this Absolute Shocker from Indiana, USA.

Whilst mounting a successful prosecution against the contractor responsible for this fiasco would be a walk in the park, you'd have to admit that his defense lawyer would be unable to hide anything

## **MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY COURSES**

### DRIVER IMPROVEMENT COURSE

Date: 11 Feb

Place: AS-212, Room 121A

Time: 0730-1600 (first 25 Marines, so be early)

### REMEDIAL DRIVER IMPROVEMENT COURSE

Date: 13 Feb

Place: AS-212, Room 121A

Time: 0730-1130

### Motorcycle BASIC RIDER COURSE (23 hours)

6-8 Feb and 13-15 Feb

Fri 1700-2200 and 0700-1700 Sat and Sun

(Classes are held at Camp Johnson, call 938-6294 for details)

### Motorcycle EXPERIENCED RIDER COURSE (11 hours)

5-6 Mar

Fri 1700-2200 and Sat 0700-1300

(The experienced rider must have an endorsement on his drivers license)

**No permit is required to take the course at CCCC; however, an endorsement or proof of purchase/ownership is required to receive a voucher for the MCAS Safety Office to pay for the class. The Marine must present his driver license and ID card to receive the voucher. If the Marine has a motorcycle endorsement, he will need to take the experienced rider course. The phone number at Coastal for registration 938-6294.**

## USMC CLASS A GROUND MISHAPS (FATALITIES- FY 2004)

### **031003: ON DUTY**

Maintenance worker is electrocuted while working on a air search radar unit

### **031005: OFF DUTY**

SNS was observed to be driving in excess of speed limit when he sideswiped another vehicle and lost control of his motorcycle.

### **031012: OFF DUTY**

SNM drowned while camping.

### **031018: OFF DUTY**

SNM was struck and killed by another vehicle.

### **031026: OFF DUTY**

SNM lost control of his vehicle and it left the road, crashed, and caught fire.

### **031030: ON DUTY**

SNM dies during a free fall jump.

### **031110: OFF DUTY**

SNM died when the vehicle he was in struck utility pole.

### **031111: OFF DUTY**

SNM fell off a building after a day of drinking.

### **031115: OFF DUTY**

SNM (pax) was killed when the car he was in lost control.

### **031122: OFF DUTY**

SNM was speeding, ran a red light, and struck two SUV's.

### **031123: OFF DUTY**

SNM died from head trauma received while playing football on 17 Nov 03.

### **031123: OFF DUTY (3 different times since 1 Oct 04)**

SNM spun out of control and hit a pickup truck in the oncoming lane.

### **031213: OFF DUTY**

SNM ejected from his car and died. Speed was a factor.

### **031225: OFF DUTY**

SNM died on 26 Dec from injuries sustained in a POV mishap.

### **031226: OFF DUTY**

SNM died when the car he was in flipped.

### **031223: ON DUTY**

SNM dies when the government vehicle he was in rolled over. (SNM was the PAX)

### **031227: OFF DUTY**

SNM died when his brother lost control of his vehicle.

### **040114: OFF DUTY**

SNM died from injuries after falling into a campfire on 31 Dec 03.

Of the 20 deaths this fiscal year, 17 were considered off duty. Out of those, **11** deaths were vehicle related, whether by speeding, drinking, etc...

Four months into this fiscal and the Marine Corps has already lost 20 Marines...and none of these are casualties of any Operations in a hostile country! At this rate we can expect to lose another **40** Marines by years end if this trend continues.

Consider the risks, weigh the options carefully, and use common sense so the number of lives lost will be minimized and you won't be one of them.